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USCGC Cowslip
WLB-277



Astoria, OR

WELCOME ABOARD the United States Coast Guard Cutter COWSLIP (WLB 277), the Coast Guard's oldest buoy tender. Launched in 1942, she continues to service aids to navigation. Having served in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and Desert Storm, COWSLIP endures to serve the mariner.

Built and outfitted in 1941 in Duluth, MN at a cost of \$787,451, COWSLIP has provided a tremendous return on investment. Homeported in Boston MA; Portland ME; Portsmouth VA; and now Astoria OR, COWSLIP continues her mission to mark America's waterways, while also providing for national defense, executing search and rescue missions, breaking ice, enforcing maritime law, and protecting the marine environment.

COWSLIP, an "A" class, seagoing buoy tender, is the oldest of 22 remaining "180's" still serving in the Coast Guard. She was decommissioned and sold in 1973, as part of the Coast Guard's down-sizing. Following the tragic loss of cutter BLACKTHORN, COWSLIP was repurchased by the Coast Guard in 1981. She was put through the Service Life Extension Program (SLEP) and now boasts many modern engineering and habitability improvements that enhance her 55+ year-old hull.

COWSLIP presently services buoys and lighted fixed aids to navigation from the Oregon/California border to Destruction Island, off Washington's Olympic Peninsula, and up the Columbia River past St. Helens, OR. COWSLIP is the fifth "180" to call Base Tongue Point in Astoria, OR her home. Preceding COWSLIP were cutters MALLOW (decommissioned in 1997), TUPELO (decommissioned and sold in 1974), CACTUS (grounded in Grays Harbor in 1972 and scrapped), and IRIS (decommissioned in 1995).

Working the breaking bars of the Columbia River, Coos Bay, Yaquina Bay, Willapa Bay, Grays Harbor, and other coastal rivers, COWSLIP has taken on the nickname "BARTENDER." COWSLIP hoists buoys up to 9' diameter and 35' long in the toughest marine environment. These buoys weigh over 18,000 pounds and are set using near 2 inch chain, and up to 18 ton sinkers. COWSLIP works the largest buoys in the Coast Guard in the most arduous operations area, and is the hardest working tender in the fleet.

WELCOME ABOARD cutter COWSLIP, the "No Bull Bartender!"

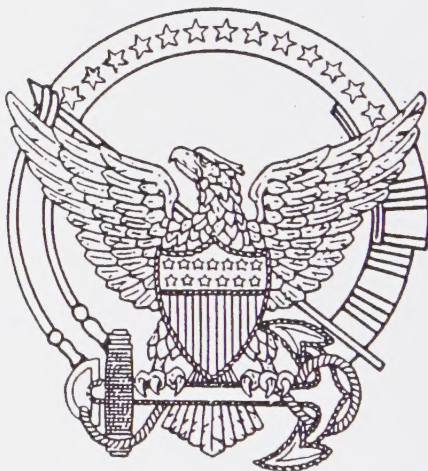
“THE BARTENDER”



COMMANDING OFFICER'S BIOGRAPHY

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER BRIAN J. MARVIN

Lieutenant Commander Brian J. Marvin graduated from the U. S. Coast Guard Academy in 1983 with a Bachelor's Degree in Ocean Engineering. He was assigned aboard the medium endurance cutter CITRUS in Coos Bay, Oregon from 1983 to 1985. He next served as an Intelligence Officer along the mid-Atlantic coast assigned to the Fifth District Office of Law Enforcement in Portsmouth, Virginia. From 1988 to 1990 he was Executive Officer aboard the ocean going buoy tender HORNBEAM in Cape May, New Jersey. He graduated from the University of Indiana with a Master's Degree in Education in 1991 and worked at the U. S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut as coordinator of the Ship Simulator Facility, and as an instructor for navigation, ship handling, and leadership. After his tour at the Academy, he screened for command afloat and received orders to the cutter COWSLIP. He assumed command of COWSLIP on 8 August, 1996.



THE COMMANDING OFFICERS

"Only a seaman realizes to what extent an entire ship reflects the personality and ability of one individual, her Commanding Officer. To a landsman this is not understandable, and sometimes it is even difficult for us to understand, -but it is so.

... There is one who alone is ultimately responsible for the safe navigation, engineering performance, accurate gunfiring, and morale of his ship. He is the Commanding Officer, he is the ship.

... It is a duty which richly deserves the highest, time honored title of the seafaring world. "CAPTAIN."

-Joseph Conrad

USCGC COWSLIP (WLB 277) COMMANDING OFFICERS

NAME	ASSUMED COMMAND
LT A. J. BROWN.....	17 October 1942
LT M. L. HUDGINS.....	24 July 1943
LCDR A. J. BROWN.....	22 April 1947
LCDR J. M. JOSEPH.....	16 October 1949
LT R. C. PHILLIPS.....	26 December 1950
LT W. C. AKERS.....	25 March 1952
LT R. F. ERDMAN.....	31 December 1953
LT G. A. TARDIF.....	18 January 1954
LT J. H. MACDONALD.....	22 June 1955
LT F. H. ACHARD.....	26 March 1958
LT T. A. CLINGAN.....	2 June 1958
LCDR B. J. KOWALSKI.....	3 September 1959
LCDR W. W. WAGGETT.....	17 August 1962
LCDR J. A. DEARDAN.....	1 July 1964
LCDR R. S. PALMER, JR.....	3 February 1967
LCDR R. C. WALTON.....	12 July 1968
LCDR N. A. BRUNELLE.....	19 June 1970
LCDR S. L. RICHMOND.....	14 July 1972
DECOMMISSIONED.....	29 March 1973
LCDR W. A. MCDONOUGH.....	9 November 1981
DECOMMISSIONED.....	13 January 1983
LCDR J. G. KOTECKI.....	25 June 1984
LCDR S. J. NORMAN.....	27 June 1985
LCDR M. L. HUNT.....	12 June 1987
LCDR B. D. HORROCKS.....	31 July 1990
LCDR K. S. COOK.....	16 July 1993
LCDR P. W. LANGNER.....	20 June 1995
LCDR B. J. MARVIN.....	8 August 1996

SHIP'S CREW COMPLEMENT

USCGC COWSLIP (WLB-277)

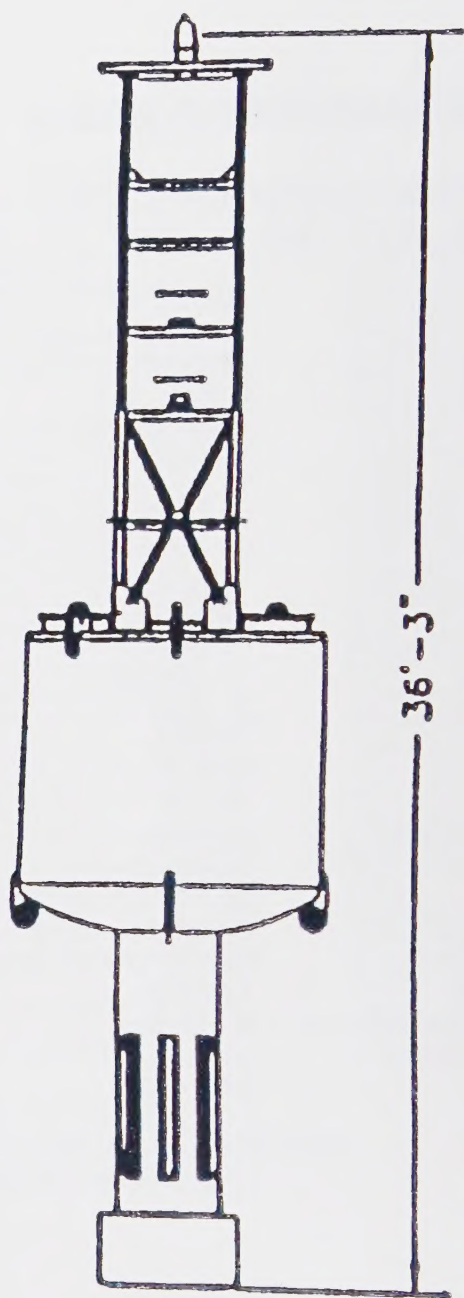
<u>RANK/RATE</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>NUM</u>
Lieutenant Commander	Command Officer	1
Lieutenant	Exec Officer	1
Lieutenant Junior Grade	OPS Officer	1
Lieutenant Junior Grade	ADMIN Officer	1
Ensign	Watch Officer	1
Ensign	Watch Officer	1
Chief Warrant Off. Boatswain	1ST Lieutenant	1
Chief Warrant Off. Engineer	Engineering Off.	1
Chief Boatswain's Mate	Deck	1
Chief Machinery Technician	Engineering	2
Chief Electrician's Mate	Engineering	1
1st Class Boatswain's Mate	Deck	1
1st Class Quartermaster	Operations	1
1st Class Food Service Spec.	Administration	1
1st Class Machinery Technician	Engineering	1
1st Class Damage Controlman	Engineering	1
2nd Class Gunner's Mate	Deck	1
2nd Class Quartermaster	Operations	1
2nd Class Electronics Technician	Operations	1
2nd Class Food Service Spec.	Administration	1
2nd Class Health Service Tech.	Administration	1
2nd Class Storekeeper	Administration	1
2nd Class Yeoman	Administration	1
2nd Class Machinery Technician	Engineering	2
2nd Class Electrician's Mate	Engineering	1
3rd Class Boatswain's Mate	Deck	1
3rd Class Quartermaster	Operations	1
3rd Class Food Service Spec.	Administration	2
3rd Class Machinery Technician	Engineering	2
Seaman	Deck	8
Seaman Apprentice	Deck	6
Fireman	Engineering	2
Fireman Apprentice	Engineering	1

TOTAL OFFICERS:	6
TOTAL WARRANT OFFICERS:	2
TOTAL ENLISTED:	42

SHIP'S CHARACTERISTICS

USCGC COWSLIP (WAGL-277 / WLB-277)

<i>Contracted</i>	05 JUL 41
<i>Builders</i>	Marine Iron and Shipbuilding Corp. Duluth, MN
<i>Cost</i>	\$787,451.00
<i>Keel Laid</i>	16 SEP 41
<i>Launched</i>	11 APR 42
<i>Commissioned</i>	17 OCT 42
<i>Decommissioned</i>	29 MAR 73
<i>Sold</i>	17 AUG 77
<i>Repurchased</i>	19 JAN 81
<i>Recommissioned</i>	09 NOV 81
<i>Decommissioned</i>	13 JAN 83
<i>Recommissioned</i>	25 JUN 84
<i>Length</i>	180 ft
<i>Beam</i>	37.1 ft
<i>Draft</i>	12.5 ft
<i>Displacement (full load)</i>	1026 tons
<i>Propulsion</i>	Diesel Electric
<i>Main Engines</i>	(2) EMD 8 cylinder diesel delivering 750 hp at 750 rpm
<i>Shaft Horsepower</i>	1,000 hp
<i>Current Crew's Complement</i>	8 Officers 45 Enlisted
<i>Speed</i>	13.7 (max) 11.0 (cruise)
<i>Range</i>	8,000 miles (max) 12,000 miles (cruise)



9x35 LWR